

**ecology and environment, inc.**

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International Specialists in the Environment

## M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: October 17, 1986  
TO: File  
FROM: Robert Hingtgen *RH*  
SUBJECT: Illinois/R05-8410-01G/IL0373  
Chicago/Lead Products Plant  
ILD980606461

The former Lead Products Plant was located at 2639 W. Lexington St. Chicago, Il, and occupied an area of approximately 3.5 acres. A CERCLA 103(c) form was completed for the Lead Products Plant by N.L. Industries, Inc. of Hightstown, New Jersey. N.L. Industries was formed in 1891 when several independent lead and related product manufacturers merged. N.L. Industries filed CERCLA 103(c) forms for all of its subsidiaries, a total of 44 in Region V. Because of a lack of information concerning the history of each of its subsidiaries, N.L. Industries attached a disclaimer to the 103(c) form which basically stated that they are not sure if described activities actually took place at each site, or that N.L. Industries claims any responsibility.

During the time of operation various lead products, possibly including lead bearings, lead pipe, and lead plumbing fixtures were produced. Sometime after 1948 Lead Products Company ceased operation and a company called Tool and Engineering began its manufacturing processes, that of bending sheet metal for automobile manufacturers. This company may also have been a subsidiary of N.L. Industries, as it was purchased from them by Farley Industries in 1982. Farley Industries is located in Chicago, Illinois.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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In preparation for a site inspection conducted by FIT members from Ecology and Environment, Inc., representatives from Farley Industries and N.L. Industries were contacted in order to learn more about the history of the site prior to Tool and Engineering operations.

Mr. Dan Goldberg of Farley Industries stated that his company had no information of Lead Products operations. Mr. Glenn Rodman, Environmental Engineer for N.L. Industries, stated that very little information existed regarding the facility and could only speculate that the Lead Products Plant was sold sometime after 1948.

Based on the lack of information from people who would be expected to know something about the site, a HRS scoring of the site would seem futile. Lack of information concerning hazardous waste types, quantities, and containment would yield a site migration score of zero. It does not seem likely that the site poses any real threat to the local population, despite the lack of documentation. The population in the three mile radius is supplied with water from Lake Michigan. No overland migration route exists between the site and the nearest surface water (South Branch Chicago River) 2.4 miles to the south. There is no possibility of contact with contaminated soil as the site is composed of one building with the remaining area paved. In addition, Jim Moore, IEPA, assigned a low priority for inspection stating that since there was no record of the site in IEPA files, past release of contaminants from the site would be unlikely.

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